# FACT SHEET Update: 06/13/06

# **GILA NATIONAL FOREST – Fire Update**

Fire Info: 505-388-8245/505- 538-1426 (cell)

www.fs.fed.us/r3/gila



#### Wildland Fire Use – All fires were lightning-caused.

**Wildland Fire Use** is the management of naturally-ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific pre-stated resource management objectives in predefined geographic areas outlined in Fire Management Plans.

<u>Taylor Fire</u>: Black Range Ranger District, detected on *5/15/06*, located 80 miles northwest of Truth or Consequences, NM, south of Wall Lake and west of Forest Road 150. Current size remains at **1780** acres. No new activity reported. Daily monitoring of the fire continues. For specific information about the Taylor Fire, call 505-894-6677.

<u>Saliz Fire</u>: Reserve Ranger District, detected on 5/15/06, located 8 miles southeast of Reserve, NM. No new fire growth. The current size remains at **14** acres. Monitoring activities continue. For specific information about the Saliz Fire, call 505-533-6231.

Skates Fire: Silver City Ranger District, detected on 6/02/06, located 7 miles northeast of Pinos Altos, NM and 12 miles northeast of Silver City. The fire is approximately 4733 acres and burning in piñon-juniper and ponderosa pine. Crews have been conducting burnout operations as part of the management strategy and this has resulted in an increase in smoke that is visible from Silver City, Mimbres Valley and surrounding areas. Burnout operations were conducted and will likely continue through the week. 269 personnel, 15 engines and a helicopter are assigned to the fire. An emergency fire closure order is in effect for the immediate area in proximity to the Skates Fire. For specific information related to the closure order, please visit <a href="www.fs.fed.us/r3/gila">www.fs.fed.us/r3/gila</a>. As an added measure of safety for the public and firefighters, traffic control activities will be in effect on State Highway 15. A dedicated phone line has been established for Skates Fire information, please call 505-388-8268.

<u>Wilson Fire</u>: Reserve Ranger District, detected on 6/06/06, located 9 miles southwest of Reserve, NM. The fire is approximately 1,300 acres and burning in piñon-juniper and ponderosa pine. Line construction was done around the southeast corner to keep the fire away from the Torriette private property. The fire is projected to spread to the south, southwest, southeast and northeast. Fire behavior is moderate to high with some isolated torching of groups of trees and short runs uphill. A road closure is in effect on NFRS 49 from NFRS 49A junction to the junction of NFRS 3020 south of Torriette Lake. For specific information related to the closure order, please visit <a href="www.fs.fed.us/r3/gila">www.fs.fed.us/r3/gila</a>. Ninety-four personnel and 3 engines are assigned the fire. For specific information about the Wilson Fire, call 505-533-6231.

<u>Martinez Fire</u>: Reserve Ranger District, detected on 6/06/06, located 12 miles southwest of Reserve, NM. This fire is approximately 450 acres. Fire behavior is described as low to moderate and the fire is reportedly burning in piñon-juniper and ponderosa pine. Hand line was constructed in the last couple of days to check the fire's spread toward private land and to keep the fire from moving into several drainages. Eleven personnel are assigned to the fire.

For specific information about the Martinez Fire, call 505-533-6231.

<u>Brushy Fire</u>: Glenwood Ranger District, detected on 6/06/06, located 3 miles northwest Glenwood, NM. The fire's size was estimated to be 500 acres. It is burning in oak brush, piñon-juniper and grass. The main objective today is to protect the Glenwood Brushy Electronic site and range developments. The fire is continuing to provide good resource benefits as it reduces heavy juniper concentrations. Sixty-eight personnel are assigned to the fire. Some smoke is visible during mid- and late-afternoon.

For specific information about the Brushy Fire, call 505-539-2481.

<u>Cement Fire</u>: Wilderness Ranger District, detected on 6/06/06, located 6 miles north of the Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument. The fire is in the Gila Wilderness and is currently estimated to be 477 acres. The fire is continuing to back down Cement Canyon in grass under the pine stringers and is burning thru grass under piñon-juniper on the mesa top to the north east of the Canyon. The fire is being monitored from the air. It is not posing any threats to private property or structures.

For specific information about the Cement Fire, call 505-536-2250.

## Wildland fires - lightning-caused and/or person-caused.

Wildland Fire: Any non-structure fire, other than prescribed fire, that occurs in the wildland.

<u>Clayton Fire</u>: Wilderness Ranger District, detected on 6/06/06, located 20 miles northeast of Glenwood, NM and two miles east of Gilita Creek Campground. The Clayton Fire was in the Gila Wilderness. On 6/12/2006 the fire was contained at **387** acres.

For more information about the Clayton Fire, call 505-536-2250.

#### No new starts were detected on June 12, 2006.

No structures have been threatened by any of the fires. Safety remains a number one priority for all fire-related activities.

### **Restrictions**

The Gila National Forest is currently in Stage I Fire and Smoking restrictions. Open campfires are limited to designated campgrounds only and smoking is prohibited, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is cleared of flammable material. The list of campgrounds where campfires are still allowed is listed within the official order 06-248, which is posted on the website at: <a href="http://www2.srs.fs.fed.us/r3/gila/fire/forestclosure.asp">http://www2.srs.fs.fed.us/r3/gila/fire/forestclosure.asp</a>.

For more information about the current fire activity on the Gila National Forest, contact the Information Office at 388-8245 or visit the website at www.fs.fed.us/r3/gila.

Information about all current federal and state land restrictions and closures in New Mexico and Arizona can be found by visiting the website: <a href="http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc/information/firerestrictions/restrictions">http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc/information/firerestrictions/restrictions</a> closures.htm